

Message Text

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ACTION PPT-01

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FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1733

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CPAS, CASC, CGEN, YO (SIMIC, IVAN)

SUBJ: PASSPORT FOR DRAFT EVADER SEEKING BENEFITS
OF CLEMENCY PROGRAM

REF : A. BELGRADE 4991, 10/8/74

B. BELGRADE 2714, 6/6/74

C. STATE 7614, 1/14/75

1. BELGRADE REFTELS DESCRIBED DIFFICULTIES IVAN SIMIC
ENCOUNTERING IN OBTAINING YUGOSLAV PASSPORT TO DEPART
COUNTRY IN ORDER RETURN TO U.S. TO BENEFIT FROM CLEMENCY
PROGRAM. THOSE PROBLEMS CONTINUE.

2. REF A. ASKED DEPT WHETHER PASSPORT LIMITED FOR
IMMEDIATE AND DIRECT RETURN COULD BE ISSUED IN LIEU
OF CARD OF IDENTITY AND REGISTRATION AS INSTRUCTED
IN DEPT OM (PPT/LE) OF 8/28/72. NO ANSWER RECEIVED
TO DATE. AS PRACTICAL MATTER, EMB BELIEVES THIS
CARD OF LITTLE VALUE. NO AMERICAN CARRIERS
PRESENTLY FLY TO BELGRADE, AND THEREFORE DOUBTFUL
WHETHER CAPTAIN OF FOREIGN CARRIER WOULD BE WILLING
TO TAKE CARD AND IMPLIED RESPONSIBILITY FOR SIMIC.
ALSO, WITH NO DIRECT FLIGHTS TO U.S. IMPLICATIONS
OF TRANSFER AT SOME MID-POINT ADD FURTHER TO OUR
DOUBTS ABOUT ITS USEFULNESS.

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3. IF SIMIC COULD BE ISSUED LIMITED U.S. PASSPORT,
HE MIGHT BE ABLE CONVINCE LOCAL OFFICIALS TO ISSUE

EXIT VISA IN IT RATHER THAN ISSUE HIM YUGOSLAV PASSPORT, THUS CIRCUMVENTING DIFFICULT PROBLEM FOR THEM. SIMIC CLAIMS POLICE IN SKOPJE HAVE INDICATED THEY WOULD ISSUE EXIT VISA IN THIS FASHION, BUT WE UNABLE TO VERIFY.

4. AT PRESENT, SIMIC HAS OPEN AIR TICKET TO U.S. AND HIS GERMAN WIFE AND SON HAVE BEEN HERE FOR SEVERAL MONTHS TRYING WITHOUT SUCCESS TO CONVICNE YUGOSLAVS TO ISSUE HIM PASSPORT ON HUMANITARIAN GROUNDS. EMB HAS TRIED TO HELP BY SUPPLYING FONOFF WITH PARTICULARS IN HIS CASE, BUT SO FAR THEY EITHER UNWILLING OR UNABLE TO HELP SIMIC.

5. AFTER MORE THAN TWO YEARS OF DEALINGS WITH SIMIC, CONOFF CONVINCED THAT SIMIC SINCERELY WANTS TO RETURN TO U.S. TO CLEAR HIS RECORD UNDER CLEMENCY PROGRAM, AND TAKE UP NORMAL LIFE WITH WIFE AND SON WHO WOULD LATER IMMIGRATE FROM GERMANY.

6. ACTION REQUESTED. THEREFORE, EMB RECOMMENDS ISSUANCE OF PASSPORT VALID FOR 30 DAYS, AND LIMITED TO IMMEDIATE AND DIRECT RETURN. REQUEST CABLE REPLY. TOON

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